

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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51

ACTION SS-25

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R 301407Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4303

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 5172

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS ET US

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN REACTION TO U.S. PRESENTATION ON
ERITREAN ISSUE

REF: STATE 100048

1. WE CONCUR IN THE PROPOSED MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT ASSAD WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF THE FIRST SENTENCE IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL.
STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THAT PARA WERE MADE AT SAME TIME AS STATE-
MENTS COVERED IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL, AND WE WOULD THEREFORE
PREFER SUBSTITUTION OF "ALSO" FOR "SUBSEQUENTLY."

2. MORE IMPORTANTLY, TEFERI BANTE DID NOT INDICATE CLEARLY WHETHER
THE CONTACTS WITH THE REBELS TO WHICH HE REFERRED HAD BEEN MADE
DIRECTLY BY THE PMG OR INDIRECTLY, E.G., THROUGH THE SUDANESE
GOVERNMENT. WE THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT THE FIRST SENTENCE OF
PARA 2 OF REFTEL BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"PMG HAS ALSO INFORMED US THAT, IN ADDITION TO CONTINUED
CONTACT BETWEEN THE SUDANESE AND ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENTS, CONTACTS
HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED WITH THE INSURGENTS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN
CLARIFICATION OF THEIR VIEWS. HOWEVER, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT
DIFFICULTY IN ASCERTAINING WHICH INDIVIDUALS AMONG THEM CAN
REALLY SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY."

HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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